

**JOINT BOARD MEETING
EXAMINING BOARD OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS,
PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND SOCIAL WORKERS,
DECEMBER 3, 2002**

PRESENT: Crystal Berg, Jennifer Borup, Peter Fabian, Lynn Gauger, Colleen James, George Kamps, Susan Kell, Douglas Knight, Linda Schwallie, Susan Putra, Mary Jo Walsh

EXCUSED: LaMarr Franklin, Anne Marie Rathburn

STAFF PRESENT: Kimberly Nania, Ph.D., Bureau Director; John Schweitzer, Legal Counsel; Pamela Meicher, Program Assistant

GUESTS: Mark Herstnad, NASW; Vince Ritacca, DHFS/DSL/BSAS; Keith Long, DHFS/DSL/BSAS; Joseph D'Costa, DWD/DVR

CALL TO ORDER

Linda Schwallie called the meeting to order at 1:20 p.m. after determining that a quorum was present. Ms. Schwallie formally welcomed Mary Jo Walsh to the MFTPCSW Joint Board.

AGENDA

MOTION: Colleen James moved, seconded by Lynn Gauger, to adopt the agenda as published. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 18, 2002 TELECONFERENCE

MOTION: Susan Kell moved, seconded by Colleen James, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 27, 2002

MOTION: Doug Knight moved, seconded by Colleen James, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES OF OCTOBER 21, 2002

MOTION: Lynn Gauger moved, seconded by Colleen James, to approve the minutes as written. Motion carried unanimously.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

No new administrative report information.

SUMMARY REPORTS ON PENDING COURT CASES, DISCIPLINARY CASES AND ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND PRESS RELEASES

John Schweitzer advised the Board that there were no MFTPCSW related cases on the report.

CORRESPONDENCE RE: AODA

The Board noted the correspondence from Secretary Phyllis Dube, Attorney William Dusso, Jon Litscher and Mark Hale discussing the Administrative Rules of Act 80.

DISCUSSION OF ACT 80 AND AODA COUNSELING

Kimberly Nania introduced Vince Ritacca and Keith Long from DHFS.

Linda Schwallie asked the Board members that had met with Secretary Herrera to give their views of the meeting.

Lynn Gauger gave an overview of their meeting with Secretary Herrera. Ms. Gauger was disappointed and expected more support from Secretary Herrera other than a line item on the budget. Ms. Gauger was glad that they had the opportunity to sit down with Secretary Herrera.

Peter Fabian gave a historical perspective, including how the Board has made a good faith effort when interfacing with the WCB. Mr. Fabian stated how Secretary Dube has designated key staffers to work with the Board so the Board is able to go directly to the DHFS to more clearly start a process to work the issues through.

Linda Schwallie asked for expectations as the Board moves forward. The following are key points of that discussion:

- The Board would like to be in agreement with DHFS and their interpretation of Act 80.
- Identify the problems and difficulties between the DHFS, DRL and the Board to build on agreements and specific language.
- Continue with the spirit of collaboration and building on consensus.
- Be aware of the realities of political change; do not want to see clients or therapists get caught and to ensure safety to the public.
- The Board needs to be proactive and represent the views to the Governor Elect's transition team.
- The Board would like a definition of specialty from DHFS.

Linda Schwallie asked Vince Ritacca and Keith Long from DHFS, what their expectations are. Keith Long started the discussion by stating that DHFS thinks this is an incredible opportunity to meet with the MFTPCSW Joint Board. Vince Ritacca spoke following Keith Long. The following are some key issues from DHFS:

- DHFS manages block grant money from Federal agencies. DHFS needs to comply with certified programs with credentials to ensure public protection.
- DHFS needs to continue to implement HF 75 without creating complications that will make it difficult to supervise those programs.

- DHFS would like recognition that providing alcohol and drug abuse treatment services are in fact a unique service, it is not reflected by generic practice or background.
- DHFS does not want to duplicate any processes.
- DHFS needs to know what is meant by addition in Act 80

After a lengthy discussion it was mutually decided by both the MFTPCSW Joint Board and DHFS that a task force needs to be created to continue this discussion and come to some points of agreement on the unanswered questions at this time. The task force will consist of Vince Ritacca, Keith Long, Mark Hale, Peter Fabian, Colleen James, and a public member from each Section and a public member; at least a CADC. The Social Worker Section will identify their member at their meeting tomorrow.

MOTION: Doug Knight moved, seconded by Crystal that Chair Linda Schwallie will appoint a workgroup consisting of one member from each section, DHFS and public members. Chair Schwallie will advise the Board of the workgroup at the next Board meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

REPORT OF RULES COMMITTEE

Colleen James reported that the Rules Committee has deferred Act 80 issues to the MFTPCSW Joint Board meeting.

The committee is working on establishing criteria for licensees to treat alcohol and substance dependency abuse as a specialty.

The committee is looking at accepting a foreign degree from applicants of social workers working on reciprocity from an accredited school.

REPORT OF SOCIAL WORKERS SECTION

Douglas Knight reported that the Social Worker Section is up to date on training certificates and reclassifying people. Mr. Knight said that the Social Worker Section is working with a grid form that Jennifer Borup provided to them. The grid can help document applicant decisions consistently

George Kamps and Crystal Berg are working on defining clinical practice to satisfy statute language as a standard. They are also identifying standard course material that would be considered clinical social worker courses.

The section is also gathering information on e-therapy and how the section will address the issues in Wisconsin.

REPORT OF PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS SECTION

Colleen James reported that the Professional Counselor Section will require applicants for licensure for Professional Counselors pass the National Counselor Mental Health Certification exam. The examination is two tiered; the national exam and the second exam is for a specialty (clinical piece).

Douglas Knight would like a review of the Profession Counselor's promulgated rules.

REPORT OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPISTS SECTION

Peter Fabian reported that the Marriage and Family Therapist Section updated the MFT Training License. Mr. Fabian also reported on the National Reporting Clearing House. The department reports all actions to this clearing house and the web site is www.npdb-hipdb.com.

Peter Fabian received psychometric testing information from Charles Barnhart. Peter suggests that the MFTPCSW Joint Board work with the psychology board to write language similar to what the APA has written. The information covers three tiers of tests and what the education requirements are for each test given. John Schweitzer will address this issue with the psychology board at a future meeting.

Peter Fabian also shared the report of the Family Therapy Regulatory Board on issues around e-therapy.

REVIEW OF INQUIRES RECEIVED BY LEGAL COUNSEL

John Schweitzer received a letter from a therapist asking to expand the disciplinary rule on keeping adequate records. This issue will be added as an agenda item and discussed at the February meeting.

VISITOR COMMENTS

Marc Herstand appreciated the definition of specialty from Peter Fabian using "complexity and severity". Mr. Herstand would also like to see a definition for AODA as a specialty and see the screening process put back in place for consumer protection.

Joseph D'Costa would like to see the rules promulgated quickly. Mr. D'Costa would also like to see CE hours allowed by employer sponsored learning as long as the material used is documented. Mr. D'Costa also liked the definition of specialty using "severity and complexity" and the Board's explanation of AODA as a specialty, using the example of trade versus professional.

OTHER BOARD BUSINESS

Doug Knight suggested that the MFTPCSW Joint Board address the Governor's transition team with issues they currently have.

Jennifer Borup will email the transition team information to Linda Schwallie. The joint board team available to work with the transition team are Doug Knight, Linda Schwallie, Peter Fabian and Susan Putra.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Doug Knight moved, seconded by Jennifer Borup, to adjourn the meeting.
Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 p.m.